

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for altering coloration of a dermal region comprising administering to said region an effective amount of an interleukin.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said dermal region comprises a tattoo.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein said tattoo is selected from the group consisting of a decorative tattoo, a traumatic tattoo, a gunpowder tattoo.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said dermal region comprises a decorative tattoo.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein said dermal region comprises a traumatic tattoo.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said dermal region comprises a gunpowder tattoo.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein said altering comprises reducing the effective amount of said coloration.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein said interleukin is selected from the group consisting of IL-1, IL-2, IL-3, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-9, IL-10, IL-11, IL-12, IL-13, IL-14, and IL-15.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein said interleukin is administered 1-10 times a day.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein said interleukin is administered topically or subcutaneously.
11. The method of claim 1 wherein said interleukin is administered transdermally.
12. The method of claim 1 further comprising a color alteration treatment.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein said color alteration treatment is selected from the group consisting of excision, dermabrasion, laser therapy, cryosurgery, grafting, camouflaging, scarification, and salabrasion.
14. The method of claim 13 wherein said color alteration treatment is laser therapy.
15. The method of claim 14 wherein said laser therapy is preformed with a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser, a Q-switched alexandrite laser, or a Q-switched ruby laser.
16. The method of claim 15 wherein said interleukin is administered prior to said color alteration treatment.
17. The method of claim 16 wherein said interleukin is administered prior to or post said color alteration treatment.
18. The method of claim 17 wherein said interleukin is administered prior to said laser therapy.
19. The method of claim 8 wherein said interleukin is IL-1.
20. A method for altering coloration of a dermal region comprising administering to said region an effective amount of a tumor necrosis factor.
21. The method of claim 20 wherein said dermal region comprises a tattoo.
22. The method of claim 21 wherein said tattoo is selected from the group consisting of a decorative tattoo, a traumatic tattoo, a gunpowder tattoo.
23. The method of claim 20 wherein said dermal region comprises a decorative tattoo.

24. The method of claim 20 wherein said dermal region comprises a traumatic tattoo.
25. The method of claim 20 wherein said dermal region comprises a gunpowder tattoo.
26. The method of claim 20 wherein said altering comprises reducing the effective amount of said coloration.
27. The method of claim 20 wherein said tumor necrosis factor is TNF-alpha or TNF-beta.
28. The method of claim 20 wherein said tumor necrosis factor is administered 1-10 times a day.
29. The method of claim 20 wherein said tumor necrosis factor is administered topically or subcutaneously.
30. The method of claim 20 wherein said tumor necrosis factor is administered transdermally.
31. The method of claim 20 further comprising a color alteration treatment.
32. The method of claim 31 wherein said color alteration treatment is selected from the group consisting of excision, dermabrasion, laser therapy, cryosurgery, grafting, camouflaging, scarification, and salabrasion.
33. The method of claim 32 wherein said color alteration treatment is laser therapy.
34. The method of claim 33 wherein said laser therapy is preformed with a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser, a Q-switched alexandrite laser, or a Q-switched ruby laser.
35. The method of claim 34 wherein said tumor necrosis factor is administered prior to said color alteration treatment.

36. The method of claim 35 wherein said tumor necrosis factor is administered prior to or post said color alteration treatment.
37. The method of claim 36 wherein said tumor necrosis factor is administered prior to said laser therapy.
38. The method of claim 27 wherein said tumor necrosis factor is TNF-alpha.
39. A method for altering coloration of a dermal region comprising administering to said region an effective amount of an interferon.
40. The method of claim 39 wherein said dermal region comprises a tattoo.
41. The method of claim 39 wherein said tattoo is selected from the group consisting of a decorative tattoo, a traumatic tattoo, a gunpowder tattoo.
42. The method of claim 40 wherein said dermal region comprises a decorative tattoo.
43. The method of claim 40 wherein said dermal region comprises a traumatic tattoo.
44. The method of claim 40 wherein said dermal region comprises a gunpowder tattoo.
45. The method of claim 39 wherein said altering comprises reducing the effective amount of said coloration.
46. The method of claim 39 wherein said interferon is selected from the group consisting of interferon-alpha, interferon-beta, and interferon-gamma.
47. The method of claim 39 wherein said interferon is administered 1-10 times a day.

48. The method of claim 39 wherein said interferon is administered topically or subcutaneously.
49. The method of claim 39 wherein said interferon is administered transdermally.
50. The method of claim 39 further comprising a color alteration treatment.
51. The method of claim 39 wherein said color alteration treatment is selected from the group consisting of excision, dermabrasion, laser therapy, cryosurgery, grafting, camouflaging, scarification, and salabrasion.
52. The method of claim 51 wherein said color alteration treatment is laser therapy.
53. The method of claim 52 wherein said laser therapy is preformed with a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser, a Q-switched alexandrite laser, or a Q-switched ruby laser.
54. The method of claim 53 wherein said interferon is administered prior to said color alteration treatment.
55. The method of claim 54 wherein said interferon is administered prior to or post said color alteration treatment.
56. The method of claim 55 wherein said interferon is administered prior to said laser therapy.
57. The method of claim 39 wherein said interferon is interferon-alpha.
58. A method for altering coloration of a dermal region comprising administering to said region an effective amount of a cytokine excluding a macrophage colony-stimulating factor.
59. The method of claim 58 wherein said dermal region comprises a tattoo.

60. The method of claim 59 wherein said tattoo is selected from the group consisting of a decorative tattoo, a traumatic tattoo, a gunpowder tattoo.
61. The method of claim 59 wherein said altering comprises reducing the effective amount of said coloration.
62. The method of claim 59 wherein said cytokine is selected from the group consisting of interferon-alpha, IL-1, and TNF-alpha.
63. The method of claim 59 wherein said cytokine is administered 1-10 times a day.
64. The method of claim 59 wherein said cytokine is administered topically or subcutaneously.
65. The method of claim 59 wherein said cytokine is administered transdermally.
66. The method of claim 59 further comprising a color alteration treatment.
67. The method of claim 66 wherein said color alteration treatment is selected from the group consisting of excision, dermabrasion, laser therapy, cryosurgery, grafting, camouflaging, scarification, and salabrasion.
68. The method of claim 67 wherein said color alteration treatment is laser therapy.
69. The method of claim 68 wherein said laser therapy is preformed with a Q-switched Nd:YAG laser, a Q-switched alexandrite laser, or a Q-switched ruby laser.
70. The method of claim 66 wherein said cytokine is administered prior to said color alteration treatment.

71. The method of claim 66 wherein said cytokine is administered prior to or post said color alteration treatment.

72. The method of claim 68 wherein said cytokine is administered prior to said laser therapy.